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From: Skahen, Mary (EHS) <mary.skahen@massmail.state.ma.us>
Sent: Wednesday, November 21, 2012 3:37 PM
To: Hanchett, James (DPH)
Subject: A Message from Secretary Bigby

Dear Colleagues:

I want to thank you for your commitment to the people of the Commonwealth and to the diverse populations we serve across our Health and Human Services agencies.

There is no doubt that we have faced challenges over the past months. However, thanks to the unwavering resolve of so many dedicated members of this team, we are emerging from these challenges stronger than before.

Recent events have brought into sharp focus the fact that communities far and wide rely on us to safeguard industries that provide medicines to people in need and services to our most vulnerable populations. This is one of our most important responsibilities. We are the gatekeepers of public health and we must do all that we can to protect those we serve, and raise issues when necessary.

Now we must redouble our efforts to provide high quality health and human services, administer nation leading benefits for our veterans, ensure access for persons with disabilities and assist our families and seniors, especially in these difficult economic times.

If we embody this commitment, we will ensure that Massachusetts remains a national leader in these areas.

Thank you and I wish you and your family a happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

JudyAnn Bigby, M.D.

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